

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OUAGAD 00513 101704Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-08 NEA-10 IGA-02 SP-02
L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06
INT-05 FEAE-00 TRSE-00 /071 W
-----101806Z 127028 /53

R 101437Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3232
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, EMIN, ELTN, EINV, UV
SUBJECT: TOMBAO PROJECT

REF: 76 OUAGADOUGOU 3712

1. ON FEBRUARY 7, EMMANUEL ZOMA, MINISTER OF COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND MINES, AND TITULAR HEAD OF THE TOMBAO MINING COMPANY (SOMITAM), HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS THE CONFERENCE OF TAMBAO PROJECT DONORS HELD IN BRUSSELS ON JANUARY 20 & 21, AND THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE PROJECT.

2. A REEVALUATION OF THE MANGANESE DEPOSIT IS SCHEDULED TO BE COMPLETED BY MARCH 31, 1977. THE PRIVATE COMPANIES PARTICIPATING IN SOMITAM WILL STUDY THIS REPORT, AND HAVE "CONFIRMED THEIR DETERMINATION" TO DECIDE BY JUNE 1977 AT THE LATEST, WHETHER TO COMMIT THEMSELVES TO THE PROJECT. IF THEIR DECISION IS AFFIRMATIVE, RAILROAD CONSTRUCTION SHOULD BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER 1977.

3. ZOMA SAID THAT WHILE CURRENT DONOR PLEDGES WERE NOT SUFFICIENT, UPPER VOLTA " HAS TAKEN UPON ITSELF THE COMPLETION OF THE FINANCING". PERHAPS SAUDI ARABIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES
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PAGE 02 OUAGAD 00513 101704Z

WILL CONTRIBUTE FUNDS SO THAT UPPER VOLTA CAN REDEEM THIS PLEDGE.

4. AT A DINNER HELD AT THE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE ON FEBRUARY 8 ATTENDED BY ZOMA, THE MINISTERS OF FINANCE, PUBLIC WORKS AND PLANNING, THE DIRECTOR OF THE GOUV'S TOMBAO OFFICE, AND SAUDI ARABIA'S REPRESENTATIVE TO THE ENTENTE COUNTRIES, MR. AL-RACHACH, ZOMA REVEALED THAT THE RAILROAD COMPANY,

RAN, HAS AGREED TO REDUCE ITS FEE FOR TRANSPORTING ORE FROM
THE MINE SITE TO THE PORT OF ABIDJAN FROM EIGHTEEN OR TWENTY
DOLLARS PER DON TO ABOUT FOURTEEN AND A HALF DOLLARS.
GRAHAM

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 10-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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